

**THE  
BRITISH PRESS  
ON THE  
NAVAL BILL  
AND THE  
NEED OF AID**

FC 555  
E74  
1912

OTTAWA PRINTING Co., Ltd.

**THE BRITISH PRESS**

ON

**THE NAVAL BILL**

— AND —

**THE NEED OF AID**

FC 555

B74

1912

# THE BRITISH PRESS

ON

## THE NAVAL BILL

— AND —

## THE NEED OF AID

~~~~~

“The Canadian Parliament learnt yesterday from  
“the lips of its Prime Minister the part which he designs  
“the first Dominion to play in the strengthening of  
“Imperial defence and the direction of Imperial affairs.  
“Words do not come easily in response to such a speech.  
“Those who read it in the full text which we publish on  
“the opposite page will see that it contains no merely  
“opportunistic or transitory appeal, no deft evasion of  
“those parts of the Imperial problem which politicians  
“are fain to ignore, no facile assurances that the day of  
“danger will make the Empire one. They will find, on  
“the contrary, a splendid offer of immediate participa-  
“tion in the burden of defence and a deeply reassured  
“statement of the only conditions on which that burden  
“can in future be supported and shared. There are  
“passages in the speech which will touch profoundly the  
“spirit of British patriotism and which will be recalled  
“as often as the noble and oft quoted words in Sir John  
“Macdonald’s historic election address. But as a whole  
“the speech is something much more. It is the first clear  
“definition ever publicly given by a British statesman

“of the problem of Imperial security, the first authoritative recognition that security will depend upon a basis being found for joint participation in naval defence, and that any such basis must afford the overseas Dominions an adequate voice in foreign policy. However difficult that problem Mr. Borden states boldly that it is not the part of wisdom or statesmanship to evade it, and that, in his belief, it is not insoluble. These will be inspiring words to all who have tried to show, as we according to our capacity have done, that a policy of drift and evasion, concerted though it be in deference to dangers and difficulties of a serious kind, can only lead to difficulties and dangers a thousand times more serious still. The measures announced by Mr. Borden are the first fruits of a determination declared by him while still in opposition first to know the facts and then to act on them. He came to the British Government for facts and facts the British Government has given him. The remarkable memorandum which he read in the course of his speech, is sufficient proof of the complete candour with which the admiralty has revealed—and rightly revealed—the naked facts of the naval situation, candour begets courage. for it shows what need of courage there is, and in Mr. Borden’s speech the two combined have given us a great example of just that leadership which the British peoples, all the Empire over, desire and demand. If the truth is thus brought home to them their response is assured. The gift of three dreadnoughts, striking and significant as it would be at any time, will carry a yet greater significance in this moment of grave international strain. The world has not yet understood what the British Empire means; but it is beginning to understand to-day that as a weight in the scales for peace its power and influence are unparalleled. That is the great function which the British navy has hitherto with unremitting devotion sustained alone; but it has demanded an increasing sacrifice with every succeeding year, and, in spite of

"all that sacrifice our relative power has steadily declined. But with the Dominions, provided only that our mind and method be one, British naval power can be restored and maintained. Australia and New Zealand have already stepped forward to restore it in a measure befitting their conditions and their strength. Canada, under Mr. Borden's initiative will restore it in larger measure and by direct methods still. For the three powerful battleships which are now to be built, are greater than any provision which the Dominions have made in the past and though they are quite rightly to be held for the creation of a Canadian unit of the British navy, when that time comes, they are to be part of the Empire's battle strength wherever it may be required. Mr. Borden's language on that question is the language of common sense."

*(The Times, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"Now, before going further into Mr. Borden's statement, we would like to express our sense of profound gratitude to the Dominion government for this magnificent expression of their loyalty to the monarchy and faith in the Empire. It is help in time of need, the sort of help which proves to us who are our true friends. These three ships cannot fail to be of very great value to the security of the Empire and the weight and efficacy of its foreign policy. As peace depends upon our strength to repel attack, it may well be that this addition to our strength will be the determining factor in preserving the peace of the world. Mr. Borden in office has lost no time in proving his deep and sincere loyalty to the cause which he professed in opposition. He has gone to the Admiralty for advice and has taken it."

*(Morning Post, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"We have reached a critical stage in our history as a vast Confederation of autonomous nations. Mr. Borden has been taken into the innermost councils

"of the Imperial Government, and his great speech  
"free as it is from all rhetoric, reflects in sober terms  
"the deep impression made upon his mind by the  
"danger which threatens everything the British people  
"cherish. He admits that an emergency has arisen, and  
"he asks his fellow countrymen to make an emergency  
"contribution to avert a catastrophe. \* \* \* Such is  
"the thank offering of a young and great nation, which  
"is rapidly rising in wealth, in power and in prestige.  
"It is Canada's response to the renewed challenge to  
"the supremacy upon which her all depends. \* \* \*  
"Mr. Borden has taken a bold step. We trust and be-  
"lieve that his courageous and truest work will be re-  
"echoed, east and west, wherever there is a settlement  
"of men of British blood."

*(The Telegraph, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The speech of Mr. Borden in the Canadian House  
"of Commons marks an epoch in the history of the  
"British Empire, in the history of the world. Canada  
"as we expected, has risen to the height of her great  
"argument, and through the mouth of her Prime Min-  
"ister answers in thunder tones the challenge of those  
"who seek to deprive the British peoples of the suprem-  
"acy of the sea \* \* \*. The speech in which Mr.  
"Borden introduced his motion was well worthy of the  
"subject and the occasion. \* \* \* If the Canadian  
"Parliament accepts, as no doubt it will, Mr. Borden's  
"propositions, we shall enter upon a new era of hope  
"and security and can face the perils of the future with  
"a confidence born of the knowledge that it is not the  
"island kingdom, but the world-empire with which the  
"adversaries or assailants of Britain will have to reck-  
"on. The mother of the lion-line will indeed be vindic-  
"ated in her children."

*(The Standard, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"This buoyant young nation (Canada) feels that  
"she can no longer rely entirely upon the protection of

“the old mother country. Hence the magnificent decision of the Dominion Government, which Mr. Borden announced yesterday. Canada, it is proposed, shall provide three of the finest modern battleships that science can provide, thoroughly equipped in every respect. They will be for home defence primarily, and for Imperial defence if necessary, and will cost seven millions sterling. It is a great example to set to the rest of the Empire.”

*(The Advertiser, London, England, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“A thrill of pride will run through the veins of every Englishman as he reads this morning Mr. Borden’s speech announcing the determination of his government to ask Canada to give three fully equipped super-Dreadnoughts to the mother country. It was a great occasion and a great speech. \* \* \* The need for this aid to the mother country is made clear by the Admiralty Memorandum showing how the extraordinary growth of other navies has compelled us to withdraw a large number of vessels from Colonial waters and from the Mediterranean so as to concentrate our naval forces in the North Sea.”

*(The Graphic, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“No more important speech has been delivered in the history of world powers and Empires, in the annals of peace and war, than that in which Mr. Borden unfolded yesterday to the Canadian House of Commons his plan for contributing to the British navy three of the most powerful battleships which science can build or money supply. His speech, and the decision of which it is the considered expression reshapes the whole meaning of Empire and establishes on a new basis the security of our common heritage. \* \* \* Two chief considerations govern our attitude towards this powerful aid, offered at a critical moment to the Home Government. One is the material effect on that sea-power which must always guarantee the security



"of every part of the British Empire—which is all or  
 "nothing—and the peace of the civilized world. Such  
 "effect is enormous, both immediately and in its future  
 "significance. It repels the direst menace of the grow-  
 "ing sea-power commanded by Germany and her  
 "allies. \* \* \* Thus all come to the moral aspect of  
 "the new proposals, which is almost incalculable. To  
 "match Great Britain alone upon the high seas and to  
 "wear down the power of these islands to hold inviol-  
 "ably the command of all the seas may have been a  
 "legitimate and possible policy for a strong, ambitious  
 "nations. To confront with genuine hopes of success  
 "the united efforts of the whole British Empire is quite  
 "a different undertaking. This entrance of the great  
 "Dominions on the naval scene, as part proprietors of  
 "British sea-power will secure—if it be wisely directed  
 "—the naval supremacy of the Empire for many years  
 "to come. We were not done with even when we had  
 "to build alone. We were capable of even greater sac-  
 "rifice and effort—But, thus strengthened, we are in-  
 "vincible."

*(The Express, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"No policy could be more statesmanlike or patri-  
 "otic than this, nor could it have been proclaimed in  
 "nobler or more moving words. They will ring through-  
 "out the world as a declaration that the Dominions  
 "stand side by side with the mother country in the  
 "great task of assuring the command of the sea—that,  
 "in this, new era of intense and ever-growing naval  
 "competition, they are ready and willing and proud to  
 "join in bearing the burden of Imperial defence."

*(Daily Mail, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The speech indicates a new era in the history of  
 "the British Empire."

*(Daily Mirror, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"It is in itself a very handsome and impressive

“contribution—three super-Dreadnoughts at a total  
“cost of about £7,000,000. It is hardly necessary to  
“repeat, what we have said before, that the Imperial  
“value of such offers excels their money value. Three  
“Dreadnoughts voluntarily provided by a Dominion are  
“worth more to the Empire and the fleet than the same  
“ships provided by the British taxpayer. They are so  
“because they prove in the most practical way to all  
“concerned, and to the outer world as well, that the  
“base on which our naval strength is founded is not  
“merely insular but Imperial. They emphasise both  
“our defensive resources and our peaceful intentions.  
“\* \* \* The form of the offer was, it seems, deter-  
“mined by the Admiralty.”

*(Daily News, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

“Canada has followed the lead of other overseas  
“Dominions that have offered to help the mother coun-  
“try in strengthening and maintaining her Imperial  
“navy.”

*(Daily Sketch, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

“The word epoch-making is often used without  
“justification for quite trivial events but it has a real  
“significance when applied to the announcement which  
“Mr. Borden made in the Dominion House of Com-  
“mons yesterday. \* \* \* We need not say that the  
“people of this country will gratefully welcome this  
“proposal, both for the handsome material aid which  
“it offers and for the generous loyalty to the Empire  
“which prompts it.”

*(The Westminster Gazette, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“No man who carries in his veins the warm blood  
“of patriotism can read unmoved the description of the  
“stirring scenes in the Dominion Parliament as the  
“Prime Minister gave voice to the spirit which is ani-  
“mating the people of Canada and detailed the plans  
“by which the overmastering sentiment of loyalty and

“love for the motherland is to find its immediate expression. We had been prepared in advance for the actual contribution in kind which the Dominion is to be asked to make to the first line of the Empire’s defence, but not even the inspiring language of Mr. Borden already given to a listening world has taken the keen edge from the sentiments which yesterday found expression in the parliament of Canada.”

*(The Globe, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

“We are not going to speak of the ‘gift’ of Canada, nor gush over the ‘generosity’ of her sons. We acknowledge with full heart the splendour of the token of love and loyalty contained in Mr. Borden’s proposals and endorsed in that wonderful scene in the Dominion Parliament when the spirit lighted on members of all parties and the strangers in the Gallery, and roused them as one man to rise and sing “God save the King.” \* \* \* Britain looks on them (Canadians) to-day with the loving pride with which a mother beholds her first-born when he dons for the first time the uniform of his regiment or of an Osborne cadet. Mr. Borden’s glowing, yet business like speech, made clear the reason, the purpose and the aim of the emergency proposals which he laid before Parliament.”

“Mr. Borden is himself the most striking example of the untold advantage which the Empire will derive when the wisdom of every Imperial statesman is held at the service of the Empire as a whole. His clear outlook, his imagination, his grasp of essentials, and his driving power were never better displayed than in the speech which moved Parliament to enthusiasm, and in the proposals which he so lucidly unfolded to it. We sometimes bewail the lack of a real forceful personality who, in days of peril, would lead the Empire. Perhaps it does not occur to us sufficiently often that the Pitt or Canning of the future may be found, not in these islands but in Canada or Australia.”

*(Pall Mall Gazette, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The magnificent offer made by the Canadian Premier on behalf of the Dominion will be received in this country not only with gratitude but enthusiasm. Great as is the sum which Canada proposes to contribute towards the necessary augmentation of the Imperial navy the spirit which prompts the gift is a greater and a dearer thing by far for it demonstrates clearly and forcefully to all the world that the Empire is not, as in earlier days, a burden to the mother country, but a source of strength in the hour of need. In all the history of that Empire there is no brighter page than that which is written the story of Canada's loyalty and devotion. \* \* \* Mr. Borden's scheme is the best that could have been devised for the meeting of the perils that confront us, and it is, indeed, welcome news not only that Canada's splendid offer has been accepted, but that the Home Government, recognizing the Dominion's claim to a voice in our councils, has made arrangements for the addition of a Canadian representative on the Committee of Imperial Defence."

*(The Evening News, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The foreign powers now know what they are in for. They must see that the maritime force which they challenge is not that of Britain but that of the British Empire. And this in a long run will make for peace and the reduction of naval budgets. Like Canning our Colonial Statesmen are calling the new world in to redress the balance of the old. The international results will be as important as the international. Nothing can be better worth reading than the dignified and well reasoned passages in which Mr. Borden outlined the Constitutional position."

*(Evening Standard, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"On us at home those superb exhibitions of patriotic energy impose an obvious duty. Our gratitude to our fellow-countrymen and fellow subjects across

"the seas must not be left to evaporate in words. They  
"are making or intend to make heavy sacrifices. But  
"they make them in order to increase the power of the  
"Empire not to relieve the pockets of British tax-  
"payers."

*(Standard, London, 1912.)*

"Let us not be frightened by bogys, which will  
"prove unsubstantial if tackled boldly. Let us get to  
"work and do something. It is better to do the wrong  
"thing than to do nothing."

*(Observer, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"There has been no more gratifying fact of late  
"than the offers made freely by various Dominions and  
"other possessions of the Empire to supply men of war  
"for its defence."

*(Morning Advertiser, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"The speech in which Mr. Borden recommended to  
"the Dominion House of Commons this handsome and  
"welcome reinforcement of the Imperial navy was as  
"excellent in tone as it was sound in theory. The purely  
"defensive aim of the British navy has seldom been  
"more clearly defined, and the rule by which its expan-  
"sion must be gauged was neatly stated. The real test  
"of an action is the existence or non-existence of abso-  
"lute security."

*(Financial News, London, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"It is a great example to set to the rest of the Em-  
"pire."

*(Morning Advertiser, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"Now that Canada has again proven faith in the  
"heritage by more than the word of mouth the Im-  
"perialistic vision shines resplendent upon the horizon  
"of every loyal Britisher. The truth of Bolingbroke's  
"axiom that 'patriotism must be founded upon great

"principles and supported by great virtues' has never  
"been more strikingly demonstrated than in the pre-  
"sent instance."

*(The Commentator, London, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"Every one will appreciate the Government's rea-  
"son for postponing to a later date any formal discus-  
"sion of the splendid manifestations of Imperial patri-  
"otism which have reached us from oversea. Both the  
"Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have  
"expressed their heartfelt recognition of the proposals  
"made; and the whole House will certainly desire as  
"soon as possible to show how deeply it has been im-  
"pressed by Mr. Borden's great speech, and by the  
"scene which followed it in the Canadian Commons.  
"But it can hardly do so with propriety as yet, for Mr.  
"Borden's proposals have not yet been formally ap-  
"proved by his own Parliament, and they are therefore  
"not a subject at present for discussion in Parliament  
"here."

*(Times, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"They had all been impressed by the announce-  
"ment made by the Prime Minister of Canada that  
"Canada desires to aid the naval strength of the Em-  
"pire. They valued far more than any other considera-  
"tion in regard to this the spirit which inspired the  
"offers of contributions to the navy, the sense of kin-  
"ship and oneness which promoted such speeches as  
"that which the Prime Minister of Canada delivered  
"the other day. It was appropriate that they should  
"all feel that our sea power, to which we owed the ex-  
"istence and maintenance of our world wide Empire  
"should be that branch of our defence to be reinforced  
"by help from the Dominions."

*(Lord Crewe speaking at a Liberal demonstration at  
Bournemouth, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"The supremacy of the Imperial navy guarantees

"indefinitely the security of Canada in practically any course she may chose to adopt."

*(The New Age, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"So that already it (Committee of Imperial Defence) has almost become the supreme advisory board, on naval and military and foreign policy, for all the cabinets and parliaments of the Empire."

*(Daily Mail, London, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"But the solution seems most likely to come through this Committee of Imperial Defence, which has grown with such startling rapidity from its modest bureaucratic beginnings; so that already it has almost become the supreme advisory Board, on naval and military and foreign policy, for all the cabinets and Parliaments of the Empire."

*(Sydney Low, one of the ablest writers on the London Press, and a close student of overseas affairs, in an article in the London Daily Mail, on Mr. Bonar Law's speech, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"To-day Mr. Asquith delivered the finest congratulatory sentence that he ever coined. Mr. Bonar Law had asked him when the House would be afforded an opportunity to express its deep appreciation of the public spirited patriotism displayed by the Dominions in contributing to Imperial Defence, Mr. Asquith spoke up. 'Of course there should be formal and authoritative expression, of the universal feeling of warm appreciation, and heartfelt gratitude which has been aroused in the mother country by the splendid patriotism and liberality displayed by our fellow subjects in the Dominions. But action should be delayed till the matter has been debated by the Canadian parliament.'"

*(Parliamentary representative of the London Standard, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"We are all one in our admiration of the spirit  
"that inspires the offer."

*(The Star, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The splendid gift of three super-Dreadnoughts,  
"made by Mr. Borden on behalf of Canada to the Im-  
"perial navy is the culmination of a great rally on  
"naval questions throughout the whole Empire. The  
"indications of this movement are unmistakeable."

*(The Outlook, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"Mr. Borden has opened a new era for the British  
"Empire. The splendid patriotism with which he an-  
"nounced Canada's munificent gift to the mother coun-  
"try is first the impetus needed to lend practical direc-  
"tion and harmony to the movement towards Imperial  
"co-operative defence. The gift itself defies hyperbole.  
"It is a contribution well proportioned to the unex-  
"ampled development and prosperity of the Dominion,  
"as an addition to our naval strength, and that is an  
"imperative condition, three super-Dreadnoughts in  
"themselves affect the international balance of powers  
"on the waters. But they are still more important as  
"an expression of the determination of the younger  
"members of the Empire that, let the cost be what it  
"may, the supremacy of Great Britain as a sea power  
"shall be maintained against any odds."

*(The Outlook, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The decision of the Canadian Government to  
"supply the Empire with three Dreadnoughts is wholly  
"a matter for the Canadian Parliament, and the con-  
"cern of our Parliament with it will be confined to an  
"expression of gratitude and thanks. Canadian Liber-  
"als are pointing out that we still shall have to man and  
"maintain the ships. But the quotations which we have  
"made from the recent statements in Parliament and  
"from the Admiralty memorandum suggest that if we  
"had not had to man the ships given by the Canadian



"Government we should have to man others provided  
"by ourselves. Thus the whole question reduces itself  
"to one of what the Dominion Parliaments are prepared  
"to do of their own free will and of the balance of ne-  
"cessity which falls upon the mother country. Each  
"Parliament is free to do as it will and each Govern-  
"ment is responsible thereto and knows that this is the  
"case when it enters into consultation on the common  
"needs of the Empire. Freedom and common patri-  
"otism are competent to solve every problem that can  
"arise, and this with far less difficulty and less danger  
"of friction than would be involved in any mechanical  
"federal organization that could be devised."

*(Yorkshire Observer, referring with approval to Can-  
ada being represented on the Imperial Defence  
Committee, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

"Criticisms of the conditions attached to the Can-  
"adian offer is, of course, springing up on all sides, not  
"only here but in Canada itself. We are glad, however,  
"to record that in no quarter whatever is there the  
"smallest sign of a tendency to carp at the splendid  
"Imperial patriotism which has promoted the Canadian  
"people to arise and stand in arms by the side of the  
"old country. Criticism is directed, first, to the con-  
"tention for which we have only contempt, that the  
"Canadian ships should be used to relieve our own lia-  
"bilities; securely, to the lack of provision for manning  
"and maintenance, and this comes mainly from the  
"opposition in Canada itself; and thereby to the consti-  
"tutional question involved in the admission of a Can-  
"adian Minister to the Imperial Defence Committee.  
"The last point is the only one dealt with in the article.  
"It says that dry formalities are not needed within the  
"circle of a united family."

*(Pall Mall Gazette, London, Dec. 10th, 1912.)*

"That (Canada's proposals) is a decision worthy  
"of Canada, and the news of it will be received with

“widespread enthusiasm throughout the Empire. Nor  
“has it been taken a moment too soon. Mr. Borden’s  
“speech, and the Admiralty memorandum upon which  
“that speech was based—a copy of which we publish  
“in another column—are a complete justification of  
“those who in season and out of season have striven  
“to combat the doctrine that we could sleep quietly in  
“our beds in the sure belief that our naval superiority  
“was unassailed and unassailable.”

*(The Northern Whig, Belfast, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“This (Canada’s offer) is something wholly differ-  
“ent from the halting scheme propounded by Sir Wil-  
“frid Laurier’s Liberal Government before it quitted  
“office, and we believe it will commend itself to the  
“great majority of both the British and the Canadian  
“peoples as more comprehensive and statesmanlike. It  
“certainly meets much more effectively the exigencies  
“and conditions of the Empire at this moment as those  
“were hinted at in the Governor General’s recent  
“speech, and as they are now more fully disclosed in  
“Mr. Borden’s statement and the Admiralty’s official  
“memorandum.”

*(Bristol Times and Mirror, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“‘The day has come when either the existence of  
“the Empire will be imperilled, or the young and  
“mighty Dominions must join hands with the mother  
“land to make secure the common safety and the com-  
“mon heritage.’ These words express the spirit and  
“the resolve that animated the historic speech in which  
“the Prime Minister of the Dominion unfolded to the  
“Canadian Legislature yesterday the policy which his  
“Government desire to pursue, and the proposals to  
“which they are prepared immediately to give effect,  
“in discharging the duty which Canadians feel to be  
“due to themselves and to the Empire. Mr. Borden  
“rose ‘to the height of his great argument,’ and his  
“words will ring not only through all the King’s pos-

“sessions but through all the world. He pointed to a  
“great peril, and he reinforced his warning and his ap-  
“peal with facts and figures drawn from the most au-  
“thoritative sources. But he also revealed the direc-  
“tion and something of the means through which sal-  
“vation and safety are to be bound. Canada has al-  
“ready her mind and her will set to answer the appeal.  
“She recognizes that the defence of the Empire is not  
“only an obligation laid upon her by regard for her own  
“interests but a debt of honour and a symbol and  
“proof of loyal attachment.”

*(The Scotsman, Edinburgh, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“Canada has spoken with no uncertain sound on  
“the question of the defence of the Empire. Mr. Bor-  
“den has now submitted his scheme for a contribution  
“of £7,000,000 to the Imperial navy, amounting to the  
“value of three of the largest and strongest ships of  
“war which science can build or money can supply,  
“and there is no doubt whatever that he has the whole-  
“hearted support of the overwhelming majority of the  
“people of the Dominion. The battleships are to be  
“built in Britain. Mr. Borden was returned to power  
“in opposition to Sir Wilfrid Laurier’s somewhat par-  
“ochial scheme of naval defence. A scheme which not  
“only fell far short of the aspirations of Canada as a  
“self-governing Dominion but which would have done  
“practically nothing to give her a share in the larger  
“work of defending the Empire as a whole.”

*(Glasgow Herald, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“Canada’s practical proof that she fitly realises  
“her position as a great component part of the Empire  
“could not have come at a better time. The provision  
“of these additional vessels, while it may stimulate the  
“Cape peoples in the direction of taking their share in the  
“responsibilities of Empire will at the same time tend to  
“show European nations that the British race has no  
“intention of allowing any other to assume the control

"of the sea. This is not being done from any spirit of  
"bravado or empty vanity. It is in these days of com-  
"mercial rivalry and national progress an absolute ne-  
"cessity."

*(The Evening Telegraph and Post, Dundee, Dec. 6th,  
1912.)*

"A great wave of enthusiasm is rippling over the  
"Empire at Canada's decision to take a hand in the  
"game of poker that is being played between the pow-  
"ers \* \* \*. Canada is to put three Dreadnoughts  
"into the pool. We shall not go into paroxysms of  
"gratitude. We are glad that Canada is recognizing  
"that the burden we have borne, partly for her good—  
"during the nineteenth century no less than £80,000,000  
"was spent by us here on protecting Canada—is a heavy  
"and growing burden, which sooner or later we must  
"lay down unless we get a helping hand from her. It  
"is not merely that three Dreadnoughts are a tremend-  
"ous weight on the side of peace during the present  
"and immediate future. They mean more than that.  
"They mean, unless we are very much mistaken, that  
"the revelation of new resources within our possession  
"will bring the game of poker to a sooner end than  
"otherwise be the case."

*(Sunday Chronicle, London, Dec. 8th, 1912.)*

"Canada's splendid and unconditional offer of  
"three Dreadnoughts to the British navy has made a  
"profound impression throughout the Empire—we  
"might even say throughout the whole world. \* \* \*  
"The main body of the Liberals is at one with the Un-  
"ionists in welcoming and appreciating the Canadian  
"offer and those of the other overseas Dominions. The  
"idea of a supreme and unchallengeable navy is part of  
"the Imperial heritage of Britons, and it is an idea  
"which is unaffected by ordinary party controversies."

*(Glasgow Herald, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

"It may be found ere long that Canada has effectively stimulated the Imperialism of other Dominions by her example."

(*Birmingham Post*, Dec. 10th, 1912.)

"The action of Canada is a further significant and convincing demonstration of the strength and the reality of the ties which bind the units of the British Empire into one great sentient organism. As such it cannot fail to arouse the enthusiasm of patriots throughout the world."

(*Sussex Daily News*, Dec. 12th, 1912.)

"Their gift is meant to strengthen the British navy, not to reduce the responsibilities of the nation."

(*South Wales Daily News*, Cardiff, Dec. 10th, 1912.)

"Since the whole great question of Canada's part in the Empire's naval defense began to be discussed, and, more particularly, since Mr. Borden's last visit, with several of his colleagues, to England, we have added to every comment upon the subject the expression of an assured conviction that this momentous statement from Mr. Borden would be found to show Canada's determination to play a part in every respect worthy of her position and destiny as the Premier Dominion of the Empire. That conviction has been gloriously justified by the event, and the comments of the civilized world upon the Ottawa pronouncement from the highest, the most glowing tribute which has ever been paid to Canada, the new nation. \* \* \* The Canadian Prime Minister has spoken, we are convinced, not for a party, but for a free people and a nation."

(*Standard of Empire*, Dec. 12th, 1912.)

"Canada's munificent offer of three Dreadnoughts to Great Britain has created a positive 'sensation.'"

“As the days go by we are able to see how pronounced  
“the sensation is. Uttered words and silence are alike  
“eloquent.”

*(Hull Eastern Morning News, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

“The other great naval event of the past week, the  
“decision of the Canadian Government to contribute  
“three battleships of the latest type to the King’s navy,  
“is very impressive of the strength of the family tie  
“which unites Britons in all parts of the world; and to  
“the taxpayer of the United Kingdom it must be par-  
“ticularly agreeable to learn that our kinsmen over the  
“sea are fully ready to bear their share of the Imperial  
“burden which has hitherto chiefly rested upon the  
“mother country. \* \* \* The solidarity of the Em-  
“pire on this question has been proved to demonstra-  
“tion. It is a fact of immense significance, and every  
“foreigner can see this as well as any Briton; and the  
“moral significance of it is as important as the mater-  
“ial. The whole effect may be spoilt in a moment by a  
“little blundering in the attempt to improve upon it.  
“Why not leave well enough alone.”

*(Truth, London, Dec. 11th, 1912.)*

“But for us and ours, naval supremacy in defence  
“of a priceless inheritance, and in furtherance of a  
“boundless hope, is the Imperial standard which  
“streams in the freshening twentieth century breezes,  
“and draws all the children of Empire, all the British  
“people, without distinction of colour, caste, or creed,  
“in ardent affection around the venerated island  
“mother, in her ancient home around the northern  
“seas.”

“The same sun is o’er us,  
“The same Love shall find us,  
“The same as none other,  
“Wherever we be;  
“With the same goal before us,  
“The same home behind us,

“England our Mother,  
“Queen of the Sea.

(*Financial News, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.*)

“Mr. Borden does not pretend to have any delusions on the subject. Throughout his speech there rings the knowledge that Canada has promised contribution of three Dreadnoughts is more than what the Admiralty calls a significant witness to the united strength of Empire. Mr. Borden does not conceal the fact that he knows what the Admiralty's suave phrases conceal. They conceal an urgent appeal for aid from the centre of an imperilled Empire.”

(*Dublin Irish Times, Dec. 6th, 1912.*)

“Canada's gift to the Empire is as inspiring as it is magnificent. The gratitude expressed in the mother country for this splendid token of love and patriotism is profound, whilst the offer has given intense pleasure to those sister nations which have already made their contributions to the defence of the Empire. Happily there is every indication that the Canadian people will endorse Mr. Borden's proposal to present three of the finest battleships on the seas to the navy which is theirs as well as ours. The event is unique. It is epoch-making. It places the seal upon that mutual compact into which the British Dominions and the mother land have at last entered, not only to adopt a single policy in external affairs, but to bear their portion of the responsibility cost, New Zealand and Australia led the way. They have given quickly and spontaneously, and in accordance with their respective resources and strength. Canada's gift is the most magnificent generosity which has prompted the Canadian promise of great wealth and power which the virility of her people give, have made it possible for her to outstrip the rest of the states at a bound.”

(*Plymouth Western Morning News, Dec. 7th, 1912.*)

"The nation has been greatly impressed by the  
"magnificent generosity which has prompted the Can-  
"adian Government to propose a gift of three Dread-  
"noughts to the British navy. It is indeed a happy  
"augury that the Colonies and the Dominions of the  
"Empire should display this fine spirit of loyalty to the  
"mother country, and especially that the gifts should  
"be proposed voluntarily and out of sheer good will."

*(Cardiff South Wales Daily News, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"As partners with us in the Empire which lives by  
"sea security, and by that alone, the Canadians come  
"forward generously to bear a share of the common  
"burden."

*(Bristol Times and Mirror, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"But, in the circumstances, it seems clear that by  
"increasing the fighting strength of the Imperial navy  
"by three first-class battleships Canada has done all  
"that the Empire can fairly ask of her. It is only right  
"that for the pay sheet of these ships, when once they  
"have been launched and manned, the Imperial Ex-  
"chequer should be responsible. In the same way the  
"upkeep of these Imperial naval units is as rightly the  
"concern of the Imperial authorities as is that of an-  
"other unit of the British fleet."

*(Financial News, London, Dec. 12th, 1912.)*

"If it be asked whether it is better for Canada to  
"build up a fleet of her own or to give battleships to a  
"navy under the British Admiralty, our answer must  
"be that that is a question which only Canada can  
"answer. She is a great and growing nation, and it  
"was inevitable that with the sense of power that  
"wealth brings should come the desire to take a share  
"in the burdens of Empire."

*(Manchester Guardian, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The comments on Mr. Borden's speech furnish



“little in the way of surprise. In quarters where the  
“Empire is not regarded as a ‘regrettable necessity,’ as  
“Mr. Asquith once scornfully said, ‘something to be  
“apologized for,’ the reception of the speech has been  
“as cordial as it ought to have been.

*(Daily Despatch, Manchester, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“The little navy section of the Government’s sup-  
“porters will receive a serious shock to-day by the pub-  
“lication of the memorandum on naval defence require-  
“ments prepared by the Admiralty at the request of  
“Mr. Borden, the Canadian Premier. The purpose Mr.  
“Borden had in view was to obtain authoritative ma-  
“terial upon which to frame a scheme for presentation  
“to the Canadian Parliament, by which the Dominion  
“would contribute to the naval strength of the Em-  
“pire.”

*(Belfast News Letter, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“It would we believe be almost impossible to ex-  
“aggerate the importance to the Empire of the pro-  
“nouncement made yesterday by the Prime Minister of  
“Canada on behalf of his government, both as bearing  
“on the future development of the Empire, and as re-  
“gards the front it presents to the world. Mr. Borden’s  
“cabinet has asked the Dominion Parliament, ‘to grant  
“to His Majesty a sum of £7,000,000 in order to increase  
“the effective naval forces of the Empire,’ and he as its  
“spokesman has done it in a speech which for breadth  
“of view and strength, yet sobriety of expression, is  
“worthy of the best tradition of British statesmanship.  
“\* \* \* We believe that Mr. Borden’s speech will be  
“read throughout Britain to-day with feelings both of  
“warm gratitude and great, yet wholesome, national  
“pride.

*(Dundee Advertiser, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“Mr. Borden’s speech and the memorandum pre-  
“pared by the Admiralty for the Dominion Government

“will at last lift the scales from those who have been  
“blind to the peril in which this country is placed by  
“the naval rivalry of Germany and her allies. The  
“facts are stated simply and impressively. They dis-  
“pose of the last doubt that might linger in any mind  
“as to the grand and sole purpose of the German navy.  
“That navy is practically new.”

*(Glasgow Record, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“It is interesting to learn that Canada’s magnifi-  
“cent gift to the Imperial navy has vibrated chords in  
“the other British Overseas Dominions. The repre-  
“sentatives of Australia and New Zealand in this country  
“yesterday declared their high satisfactions over the  
“Canadian action, the result of which must be to stim-  
“ulate generosity in other parts of the Empire.”

*(Bristol Western Daily Press, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“The Laurier party urges that the Admiralty mem-  
“orandum does not show the existence of a serious  
“emergency. Concerning that point we need say no  
“more than this, that if any one contemplates the weld-  
“ing of the triple alliance without misgiving he is too  
“prejudiced an optimist to take part in practical af-  
“fairs. To all military and naval intents and purposes  
“the triplic has become a single power, and its strength  
“is such that we must lose no time in adjusting ourselves  
“to the needs of the changed situation.”

*(Dundee Advertiser, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“Opportunity has not yet been given of marking  
“the impression made by Mr. Borden’s speech on for-  
“eign nations. But we may well believe that this im-  
“pression will be deepest where least is said. Some-  
“thing has at length been disclosed to foreign onlook-  
“ers of the extent of the resources, moral and material,  
“on which Britain can draw her need, in making the  
“weight of her influence felt in the cause of peace and  
“freedom, and in protecting the outworks as well as

“the inner defences of the Empire against attack—as  
“happened a century ago, a new world—an English  
“speaking world owing allegiance to the King—is be-  
“ing called in to redress the balance of the old.”

*(Edinburgh Scotsman, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“That the Dominions are so loyally recognizing  
“their obligations to the Empire is a matter for uni-  
“versal congratulations.”

*(Bradford Yorkshire Observer, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“Neither Mr. Borden nor Mr. Churchill has sound-  
“ed a bellicose note, but that united action and the  
“quiet but firm support of the Governments, parlia-  
“ments and peoples behind them may serve to act as a  
“warning and ultimately as a check to the naval ambi-  
“tions and energies of other nations, and thus bring  
“about a definite limitation of the present heavy, if not  
“absolutely wasteful, expenditure of money on naval  
“armaments.”

*(Ipswich East Anglian Daily Times, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

“To-day the eyes of the world will be directed par-  
“ticularly towards Canada. The Western Dominion re-  
“cently showed her staunch loyalty to the old country  
“when tested severely on the question of reciprocity  
“with the United States. She is marching steadily for-  
“ward.”

*(Aberdeen Daily Journal, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“There is no need to consider what questions might  
“arise if Canada was richer and more populous than  
“the old country—certainly it would be unwise to sug-  
“gest that in such a case the voice of Canada must ne-  
“cessarily be predominant. Why suggest possibilities  
“of jealousy? The navy of the British people has to  
“deal with questions as they arise—though it is true  
“with some outlook for the future, and this method will  
“suffice at the present juncture.”

*(Leeds Yorkshire Post, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

"Mr. Borden's speech to the Parliament of Canada  
"has sent a thrill of pride and gratitude throughout the  
"Empire."

*(Dublin Express, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"There can be no question whatever that Mr. Borden's magnificent speech in submitting the 'Effective Naval Forces Bill' to the Dominion House of Commons, must have a profound effect on foreign opinion. It brings home to the general mind, in a way that no other recent event has done, the solidarity of the British Empire. The words of his peroration must appeal to every citizen of the Empire."

*(The Evening Times, Glasgow, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"One of the most striking portions of Mr. Borden's epoch-making speech was the passage in which he insisted, not for the first time, that 'the great Dominions, sharing in the defence of the Empire upon the high seas must necessarily be entitled to share also in the responsibility for, and in the control of foreign policy'—The reasonableness of this claim was recognized by His Majesty's Ministers at the time of the recent Imperial Conference, when they invited the representatives of the Dominions to attend the meetings of the Committee of Imperial Defence."

*(Dublin Irish Times, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

"Once again the new world has redressed the balance of the old. Mr. Borden's speech on Thursday was worthy of the man, the office, and the occasion—as the Westminster Gazette most justly observed, it inaugurated a development to which the overworked epithet 'epoch-making' can fairly be applied. The gift of three super-Dreadnoughts has behind it all the enthusiasm of a loyal and confident people. The effective power of the Empire has received an addition not only of £7,000,000, but of 7,000,000 people. It is as though Bulgaria and Servia together had sud-

"denly joined it. And this question which Mr. Borden  
"has gone far to settle is that of the unified control of  
"the fleet. The Laurierites will fight him on this issue  
"and will be soundly beaten. I trust their defeat will  
"make echoes beyond Canada."

*(The World, London, Dec. 10th, 1912.)*

"There is no question that Canada has 'done the  
"thing handsomely' in her contribution to the navy. It  
"would be impossible to desire a more practical earnest  
"of the Dominion's determination to support the Im-  
"perial ideal. Seven millions is an immense sum of  
"money."

*(The Glasgow Evening Times, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"A new chapter in the history of the country dates  
"from to-day. This is not simply because of the con-  
"tribution now announced from Canada to the Empire's  
"fleet—though that is magnificent. It is the new spirit  
"and the new direction of Imperial events that tell  
"most."

*(Glasgow News, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The greatest store is set by the Admiralty on the  
"material and moral help of the Dominion and the  
"answer, so Mr. Borden says, must be 'unhesitating and  
"unequivocal.' The Canadian proposal is bold and im-  
"pressive. May we express the hope that it will not be  
"oppressive."

*(Sheffield Independent, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"That Canada should willingly take upon herself  
"to share with this country the burden which the de-  
"fence of the Empire under existing conditions imposes,  
"is an evidence of loyalty none the less welcome and  
"gratifying because it is what we should expect of her  
"after an experience of her good will during the South  
"African war."

*(The Northern Echo, Darlington, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"From end to end the Empire is still ringing with  
"Mr. Borden's speech. What is the secret in that  
"speech that has touched so deep a chord. It is we  
"think the courage, its candour and its faith. Mr. Bor-  
"den would have nothing of glosses and pretence. He  
"stated the problem with frankness, he described the  
"facts with truth; and in every word he said there rang  
"the note of firm endeavour and confident belief. It is  
"a pity that statesmanship in this country has lost of  
"late the capacity for such speech. We have orators  
"to flatter and seduce the audiences which they address,  
"but seldom one to tell an audience of facts which it  
"may not approve. It has become a political maxim  
"that democracy will only respond to cajolery and  
"gifts."

*(Times, London, Dec. 10th, 1912.)*

"It would be a thousand pities if a narrow minded  
"partisanship were to cast its shadow upon the noble  
"gift of Canada and the grand possibilities for the Em-  
"pire of which we get a vision through the medium of  
"those recent declarations in the Dominion and at home.  
" \* \* \* So far as popular opinion is concerned it is  
"gratifying to hear that the great body of the Canadian  
"people are behind Mr. Borden in this matter, and that  
"from east to west the policy he has so impressively  
"expounded is approved. As to the attitude of the  
"British people at home, it is that of admiring apprecia-  
"tion. They are proud of Canada."

*(Glasgow Record, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"There is a great recognition of the splendour of  
"the Canadian contribution of three Dreadnoughts to  
"the navy and of the significance of the arrangement  
"by which the Dominion obtains a permanent repre-  
"sentative upon the Committee of Imperial Defence."

*(Aberdeen Free Press, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"We rejoice in the willingness of Canada to share  
"our burden."

*(Daily News and Leader, Dec. 10th, 1912.)*

"We are heartily glad that when Mr. Borden decided on his policy of a contribution to Imperial defence he insisted on the corollary that Canada should be admitted in some way to the Councils of the Empire. That was part of the contract. While Mr. Borden was in England he sat over the clock and listened while Mr. Asquith put his hand on his heart and made the requisite pledge."

*(Morning Post, Dec. 10th, 1912.)*

"The summoning in, by Mr. Borden, of the new world to redress the balance of the old, will in the end make it clear that we cannot be assailed because we are determined to become, and to remain, impregnable and unassailable."

*(Southampton Times, England, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The greatest value of Mr. Borden's proposal is in regard to its general significance. It is really an announcement made to the world at large that whenever Great Britain shall be hardly pressed it may look with safety and confidence to its offspring."

*(Norwich Press, England, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The suggestion has been put forward in many influential quarters that the Canadian contribution to the Imperial fleet should take the form of a flying squadron of cruisers to be used in time of peace to show the flag in all quarters of the Globe. Regulated of course by the political situation this squadron of first class vessels would be at hand to show the strength of the Empire in any quarter where danger threatened."

*(Sphere, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The nearer the heart the fewer the words. It  
"would be treating Canada not on an equality and not  
"as 'one of the family,' to indulge on any elaborate  
"language of gratitude for thus taking up her share of  
"the Imperial burden. For ourselves we never doubted  
"that when the need came, and also the strength of  
"shoulder, Canada would act as she has acted."

*(Spectator, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"Our heritage is the sea; our destiny an alliance  
"of maritime powers of one speech, one flag, and one  
"throne, of entering into these alliances we need have  
"no forebodings. Difficulties there may be but dangers  
"none. It may not be easy to reconcile all the contra-  
"dictions of local autonomy and Imperial control, but  
"these difficulties are more formidable on paper than in  
"fact. In every relation of life men have to harmonize  
"conflicting interests. Why any one should apprehend  
"disaster by taking the overseas Dominions into our  
"confidence about foreign policy we cannot under-  
"stand."

*(Daily Record, Glasgow, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"We welcome this aid from our brothers overseas  
"gladly and thankfully, with full hearts."

*(The People, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"The offer that comes to this country from our  
"Canadian Dominion is one that will afford the liveliest  
"satisfaction to every one in the land. It is made  
"through the medium of Mr. Borden, the Premier and  
"consists of three super-Dreadnoughts for the British  
"navy. This is a tribute of confidence and affection  
"that is none the less effective and touching in that in  
"strengthening the British navy Canada rightly be-  
"lieves that she is strengthening her own hands."

*(Leeds Mercury, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"This is something wholly different from the halt-



"ing scheme propounded by Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Liberal Government before it quitted office, and we believe it will commend itself to the great majority of both the British and the Canadian peoples as more comprehensive and statesmanlike."

*(British Times and Mirror, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The Canadian Premier's speech was in every way worthy of a great Imperial statesman. His lofty patriotism will be recognized, not only in Canada and Great Britain but in all parts of the Empire."

*(Newcastle Daily Journal, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"We refuse to believe that mere party jealousies will be permitted to cloud the full splendour of the Dominion's gift."

*(Globe, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

"Mr. Borden's long-awaited statement in regard to naval policy was duly made yesterday in the Canadian House of Commons and it proves no less momentous than the world had been led to expect. In the histories of future generations, indeed, its delivery may probably be held to mark one of the decisive turning points of our Imperial development."

*(Birmingham Post, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"The Dominion Ministers have set an example of Imperial loyalty which will evoke a sense of grateful appreciation in every citizen of the homeland, and which is sure to have a powerful influence upon the future relations not of Canada alone, but of every part of the Empire with the mother country. There is no reason for doubting that the Canadian Parliament and Canadian public opinion will endorse the proposals of the Dominion Ministers."

*(Cardiff Western Mail, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"That speech (Borden's) will repay the closest

"reading by every British subject the world over; nor  
"should its meaning be lost outside the British Empire.  
"It is something more than the formal announcement  
"of a handsome contribution to the Royal navy. It in-  
"augurates a new epoch in the relations between the  
"mother country and those free communities which,  
"until recently, it has been customary to call her colon-  
"ies. That appellation has long ceased to express the  
"true facts of the Imperial tie."

*(Daily Dispatch, Manchester, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"Mr. Borden has placed the Empire under an incal-  
"culable debt of gratitude by an appeal that lifts the  
"whole subject of Imperial responsibility on a higher  
"plane than it has hitherto occupied. The experience  
"of the past few years shows how increasingly heavy  
"is the burden of defence becoming. But few states-  
"men have dared to give voice to the subject with such  
"clarity, frankness and suggestiveness as are exhibited  
"by Mr. Borden. His statement should be blazoned on  
"letters of gold throughout the Empire. \* \* \* The  
"present epoch is one of peril, and Canada will not  
"wait. Her gift is timely and generous, but still more  
"noble and uplifting is the spirit which prompts the  
"gift and the manner of giving."

*(Manchester Courier, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"Canada's contribution of Dreadnoughts—for we  
"may take it for granted that Mr. Borden's navy bill  
"will pass—marks a new era in the constitution of the  
"British Empire as well as in international politics.  
"\* \* \* Nothing can be better worth reading than  
"the dignified and well-reasoned passages in which  
"Mr. Borden outlined the Constitutional position."

*(Evening Standard, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

"Mr. Borden's speech in the Canadian House of  
"Commons on Thursday marks the opening of a new  
"era—we trust a more fruitful, more beneficent, and

“more glorious era—in the development of British Empire. In saying this we are not thinking chiefly of the generous gift of three battleships at a cost of somewhat over seven millions sterling, nor of the loyalty which prompts such a gift. We have in mind rather the result which will follow from the action of Canada in bringing the overseas Dominions Commonwealths and Unions into areal partnership for the first time.”

*(The Statist, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“The Canadian offer is extraordinarily opportune in respect of our present material needs.”

*(Morning Advertiser, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“It would be difficult to exaggerate the vast Imperial importance of the munificent offer made by Mr. Borden to the British Admiralty.”

*(Sheffield Daily Telegraph, Dec. 6th, 1912.)*

“The patriotic offer of the Canadian Government has been received with enthusiasm not in England only, but throughout the Empire.”

*(Daily Graphic, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“The defences of the Empire will be strengthened, and the influence it can exercise for the peace of the world will be increased, in proportion to the statesmanship displayed in applying the principles which Mr. Borden so admirably expounded.”

*(Standard, London, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“Mr. Borden's great speech has been received with a unison of rejoicing, not only in the British Isles and in Canada; not only in the 'Sister states across the sea' but also in one foreign quarter whence approval is very welcome. The French Press quick as ever to seize points which lie hidden beneath the surface of events, comments delightedly on the fact that the French population have joined with their fellow sub-

“jects of British birth in making this free will offering  
“to the Empire. With all our heart we thank our  
“friends across the channel for this generous apprecia-  
“tion. It is good to know that the uprising of the Em-  
“pire has had the effect of confirming and strengthen-  
“ing the friendship of the British and French peoples.  
“The moral effect produced by Mr. Borden’s announce-  
“ment of Canadian policy on European affairs has thus  
“been as instantaneous as it is bound to be great.”

*(Pall Mall Gazette, Dec. 7th, 1912.)*

“The Dominions of to-day, with the growth of pop-  
“ulation and of wealth, are, as we can see, destined to  
“become the great nations of to-morrow—our fellow  
“workers on the consolidation and protection of British  
“interests in all parts of the world. A greater power  
“than the history of the human race has ever revealed  
“is rising—rising from the ocean, whence its every con-  
“stituent part had birth and must continue to draw its  
“essential strength.”

*(Daily Telegraph, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

“Such is the situation to-day, a situation which  
“Mr. Borden has had the statesmanship to perceive and  
“the courage to expose. He spoke in Ottawa with a  
“candour which our politicians are not likely to emu-  
“late. It does not increase our confidence in Mr. Wins-  
“ton Churchill to note that the whole truth about the  
“navy has been told, not in England, but in Canada.  
“\* \* \* It (Borden’s speech) is a frank, honest state-  
“ment, which can lead to no confusion, and which gives  
“us good hope indeed for the future.”

*(Blackwood’s Magazine, Jan., 1913.)*

“Sir Wilfrid Laurier has suggested as an alterna-  
“tive to Mr. Borden’s plan that the Dominion should  
“provide and man two fleet units, each with a super-  
“Dreadnought for flagship, which should be stationed  
“one in the Pacific and the other in the Atlantic. To

“understand Sir Wilfrid Laurier’s attitude it is necessary to remember that he is a consummate electioneer and a virtuoso in party tactics. His object is to suggest for his followers an alternative programme to that brought forward by the Conservatives rather than to advance a practical proposal intended for immediate adoption. As a matter of fact, being in opposition he is not in a position to give practical effect to his scheme, and there is this real difficulty in it—that one super-Dreadnought in each ocean surrounded by thousands of miles of water would not protect Canada against an enemy who had two super-Dreadnoughts in either sea.”

(*Daily Mail*, Dec. 14th, 1912.)

“Sir Wilfrid is an opportunist, or nothing. He sees the present trend of Canadian sentiment. He fears to oppose directly that wave of Imperial feeling which seems to have swept over the immense territories where recently his influence was supreme. Therefore in the amendment which he has moved to the Naval aid Bill he proposes measures of which the cost would actually exceed that of the proposals made by Mr. Borden. But the essence of his suggestion is separation while the essence of Mr. Borden’s is combination.”

(*H. F. Wyatt in The Outlook*, Jan. 11th, 1913.)

“Mr. Borden, it is hardly necessary to say, succeeded in lifting his speech far above the plane of party controversies. The temperate and statesmanlike tone of his argument was, in point of fact, warmly praised by the leader of the opposition.”

(*National Review for January*, 1913.)

“Apart from the merits of the respective policies, two obvious objections at once present themselves to Sir Wilfrid Laurier’s plan. It is not the kind of help which the British Board of Admiralty, on being ap-

“proached on the subject by the Canadian Government,  
“pronounce to be the most needed and the most useful.  
“Even if it were it would take an indefinite number of  
“years before a Canadian navy could come into play as  
“a factor in Imperial defence. Certainly it can be of no  
“practical value in meeting the purposes for which Sir  
“Wilfrid Laurier is willing to vote the seven millions—  
“‘immediately increasing the effective naval forces of  
“Britain.’ Dreadnoughts, he has been told, are what is  
“wanted to meet these immediate needs; and Canada  
“were she never so willing, is not in a position to supply  
“them from her own resources within a reasonable  
“time.”

*(Edinburgh Scotsman, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

“But if the Empire is to wait for this contribution  
“(Laurier’s) until Canada is in a position to build  
“super-Dreadnoughts, cruisers, and torpedo craft to  
“construct the machinery for their propulsion, to turn  
“out the armament without which they must be floating  
“shells, and to furnish officers and crews, it is to be  
“feared it will require to exercise considerable  
“patience.”

*(Glasgow Herald, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

“In days of rivalry in armaments it is conceivable,  
“though we hope not probable, that the need for a Can-  
“adian fleet might even pass away before she could  
“carry out Sir Wilfrid’s plan.”

*(Plymouth Western Morning News, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

“Mr. Borden, in a speech worthy of the great occa-  
“sion, made a statement so frank, loyal and practical  
“as to leave nothing in doubt.”

*(Country Life, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

“Sir Wilfrid divides the Empire into sections, each  
“section viewing the problem of its defence as a thing  
“apart. It is of a piece with the separatist tendencies

“he has shown before; and with his dictum that Canada  
“need not be fighting because England is at war.”

(*Saturday Review*, Dec. 14th, 1912.)

“It often happens that a speech which has been  
“awaited with eagerness is received with disappoint-  
“ment. But that is not the case with the Canadian Pre-  
“mier’s long-deferred pronouncement. In matter, in  
“style, in manner Mr. Borden yesterday was worthy of  
“his great subject: worthy also of the trust which Can-  
“ada and Great Britain have laid upon him. He spoke  
“as leader of the Canadian Conservatives—but he  
“spoke also as Prime Minister of the Dominion. He  
“spoke as a Colonial statesman—but he spoke also as  
“one of the rulers of the British Empire. In his speech  
“there are summed up and focussed all those vague ap-  
“prehensions and vague wishes which have found ex-  
“pression in Canada, in Australia, in New Zealand, in  
“South Africa, in Malay; there is laid down a policy  
“whose pursuit means closer union, greater strength,  
“fuller development for the Empire as a whole and for  
“each individual part. For Mr. Borden has seen our  
“present insecurity and the peril which menaces our  
“future; he has seen also the only safeguard, the sole  
“and sufficient defence.”

(*Liverpool Courier*, Dec. 6th, 1912.)

“Of the part played by Mr. Borden and his Minis-  
“try, it is difficult to speak in words which shall be ade-  
“quate without appearing fulsome. If statesmanship  
“consists in knowing how and when to take occasion by  
“the hand, then this strong, silent man has proved him-  
“self a statesman unsurpassed even in the brilliant an-  
“nals of our own race. He saw the immediate need and  
“the way to meet it. He saw the greater issue which  
“lies behind, and how to bend the need of the moment  
“to serve the larger purpose. He knew how to satisfy  
“at once the broader and the narrower patriotism by  
“rendering the immediate contribution to the security

"of the Empire compatible with the satisfaction of that  
"pride of country which demands that Canada shall  
"build and man her ships as well as pay for them. Fin-  
"ally, he has built the scaffolding of that House of De-  
"fence which not Canada and the mother country  
"alone, but all the Dominions and Dependencies of the  
"Crown, may help to build."

*(Observer, Dec. 9th, 1912.)*

"There would almost seem to be something defec-  
"tive in Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Imperial conceptions.  
"He appears unable to regard an Empire as otherwise  
"than in watertight compartments."

*(Morning Advertiser, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

"The leader of the opposition at Ottawa is not a  
"strategist, or he would not have endorsed such a plan  
"as a contribution to the main strength of the Empire.  
"Ships of war are built to defend something against  
"someone."

*(Daily Telegraph, Dec. 18th, 1912.)*

"There is no need, I think, to attach excessive im-  
"portance to Sir Wilfrid Laurier's amendment to the  
"Government of Canada's Naval Bill. A scheme which  
"would divide the Canadian fleet into two parts, and  
"keep each of those parts separate from the other fleets  
"of the Empire, is open to every conceivable strategical  
"objection. But I regard the amendment as no more  
"than a political dodge. Sir Wilfrid has to stick up for  
"his own policy of a separate Canadian fleet. He has  
"also to eat his words about Canada not being at war  
"when the rest of the Empire is at war. I may add that  
"he has performed his task with a slimness which gives  
"further proof that a Radical is a Radical all the world  
"over."

*(The World, London, Dec. 17th, 1912.)*



"If Sir Wilfrid Laurier's argument means anything, it presupposes that the Empire may be engaged in a life-and-death struggle about a cause which Canada disapproves. Our minor troubles do not touch Canada. If her ships are needed for action, it can only be either in a question nearly affecting herself, or else in some broad conflict which may bring the whole Empire down. Semi-detachment is therefore in reality not a practicable alternative. Mr. Borden has seen that clearly enough. He has realized that, in any great struggle where her ships might be required, Canada would stand or fall by the results, whether she wished it or not. He has therefore claimed, and rightly claimed, that she should have a voice in the main issues of policy which govern peace or war. Such a voice is, in truth, the only means to that security at which Sir Wilfrid Laurier's argument is aimed. The alternative is independence, nothing less. For it really is not possible, except as a form of words, to denounce the thought of separation from the Empire as 'folly and crime' and in the same breath to insist upon a species of Imperial connection much looser for defensive purposes than that of ordinary allies."

*(Times, London, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

"When neither political party in England rises to the heights demanded by the situation, we rejoice that the leadership has been taken out of our hands by Mr. Borden. England has been in travail a long time, said Frederick the Great, and at last she has produced a man. He spoke of Chatham, to whom we owe Canada. We may paraphrase the saying in regard to the Empire and Mr. Borden. For the time being Ottawa is the capital of our Empire for thence has come the impulse to do our duty and the call which is echoing throughout the Empire."

*(Saturday Review, Dec. 14th, 1912.)*

## **SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS**

*(The Capetown Times has a leading article on Dec. 6th, 1912, headed "Well Done Canada." It concludes with the following):*

"We are tolerably certain that the response of the Canadian people to Mr. Borden's lead will be one of enthusiastic admiration. And, by way of conclusion, though nobody will suggest that the Union of South Africa is in a financial position to rival the Canadian example, we may express the hope that to the extent of the resources of the Union, and in the manner most suited to the circumstances of the country and the temper of its inhabitants, our Ministers may show their appreciation of Canada's action in flattery's sincerest form."

*(The Johannesburg Star says):*

"The scope of the Canadian proposals had been anticipated but none the less the formal announcement of this noble gift and the striking speech with which the Dominion Premier introduced his scheme are calculated to create a thrill of gratitude and admiration throughout the Empire. That it will meet the approval of the Canadian people goes without saying."

*(The South African News says):*

"Canada has set us an example which South Africa cannot hope to equal. But we can follow in the same direction, keeping as close to the leader as our resources permit."

*(The Natal Mercury says that Mr. Borden's speech marked a new era in the history of the British Empire. It adds):*

"Canada has recognized her duty magnificently. Australia equally recognizes that she is in duty bound

“to spend of her substance in helping to maintain the  
“command of the sea for the Empire.”

*(General Botha, Premier of South Africa):*

“Opinion in South Africa was divided whether to  
“continue the contribution to give Dreadnoughts or to  
“have her own navy. It was a difficult and delicate  
“question, and he was anxious to take the right course.”

*(Sir D. Grant, South African Minister for Posts and Tele-  
graphs):*

“I am much impressed by the forward step Canada  
“has taken. No one recognizes more than we do in  
“South Africa the urgent necessity for protecting our  
“Empire. We hope at an early date to be able to an-  
“nounce a naval contribution commensurate with the  
“dignity of South Africa.”

## AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

---

The Naval Aid Bill was well received by the press of both countries.

### AUSTRALIAN OPINIONS.

(*Sir George Reid, High Commissioner*) :

"Magnificent from every point of view. I hope to see the North Pacific and the North Atlantic patrolled by Canadian fleets just as the South Seas are paraded by the Australian fleet.

(*Mr. G. F. Pearce, Minister of Defence*) :

"People of Australia will hail with delight Canada's decision to establish a fleet in the Pacific."

(*Mr. Deakin, Leader of the Opposition*) :

"While preferring to say nothing offhand, said that Canada's proposal certainly seemed a magnificent idea."

(*The Argus, of Melbourne, Australia, commends the "British restraint" which characterizes the Admiralty Memorandum placed before the Canadian House of Commons by Mr. Borden, and notes the spirit of quiet resolution which pervades the document*) :

"In the opinion of the Argus the Memorandum should stir the vigorous young communities of Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia to a lively sense of the debt they owe to the motherland, and of the moral obligation upon them to do their utmost at the present juncture to aid her in carrying the ever-increasing burden of Imperial Naval Defence."

## NEW ZEALAND OPINIONS.

(*Mr. I. Mackenzie, High Commissioner for New Zealand*) :

"I cannot express my great delight at Mr. Borden's proposals. My opinion is that his line of action is the right one."

(*The Navy and Defence League of Wellington cabled Mr. Borden*) :

"My colleagues and I send you kind congratulations."

## IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S THANKS.

---

(*Mr. J. A. Pease, President of the Board of Education, addressing a Liberal demonstration at Chester*);

“That morning everyone in the United Kingdom, without distinction of party, would have read with delight of the generous offer to the strength of the Imperial navy made by Mr. Borden, the Prime Minister of Canada. (Cheers.) In the history of Empires no such large share of Imperial burden had ever been assumed by an Oversea Dominion. Such assistance would materially help to maintain on the high seas throughout the whole world the predominance of the naval forces of the Crown. The gift so generously offered, crowning as it did those which we had already received from New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and the Malay States, marked the consolidation of the Empire in a way which must strike the imagination of all British people. Unity in sea power and policy would mark also a new era, and while it in no way would diminish the freedom of each component part it must tend to the closer federation of the Empire as a whole. The contribution of thirty-five million dollars, or seven million pounds, to our Empire was much more than the value of the three ‘Dreadnoughts’ which it would construct. This magnificent offer, voluntarily made by the present Canadian Government, would be regarded in history as an epoch-making event, and he need not say how readily his Majesty’s Government, on behalf of the mother country, responded to this fresh token of the feeling of kinship and loyalty that was manifested from over the sea. The Government, for whom he spoke that night, were prepared to accept with sincere gratitude the gift in the same spirit in which it had been offered. He ventured to express on the very

“day the announcement had been made their heartfelt,  
“warm appreciation to the Canadian Government for  
“their proposition, and warmly to thank the Canadian  
“people for the spirit in which we understood the gen-  
“erous proposal had been received.”

*(London Times Report.)*

*(Alexander Ure, Lord Advocate for Scotland):*

“I regard Canada’s gift as most magnificent. The  
“world knows to-day, if it did not know before, the  
“great loyalty of the Canadian people. It was not for  
“sale in the market; their princely offer, given unsolicit-  
“ed to the British people to strengthen the navy, not  
“for the purpose of aggression, but for defence of the  
“Empire, has ended the suggestion that Canada would  
“‘cut the painter’ and withdraw her allegiance unless  
“a certain preferential policy were adopted.”

*(Mr. T. J. MacNamara, Under Secretary of the Admiralty):*

“Speaking at a meeting at the Lavington-street  
“Baths, Southwark, Mr. McNamara said all of them, of  
“all parties, must have felt a thrill of pride as they read  
“of Canada’s gift to the navy. It was a splendid recog-  
“nition by the oldest Dominion of her vital stake in the  
“integrity of the British Empire. No finer tribute could  
“be paid to the sagacity and statesmanship of the men  
“who, here and overseas, in the years gone by, laid the  
“foundations of our Empire. The spirit which inspired  
“the proceedings at Ottawa—a spirit which was no less  
“strongly reflected in all parts of the Empire—was the  
“fruit of their genius. He had been at the Admiralty  
“now nearly five years and had seen many things which  
“had given him great satisfaction, especially the untir-  
“ing devotion of the officers and men of all ranks asso-  
“ciated with that great service. But most of all he had  
“seen, again and again, evidences of the renewed and  
“growing determination of our brothers across the seas  
“to play their part in the maintenance and strengthen-  
“ing of our Empire, to the end that under the cover of

“adequate defence the British people might peacefully  
“pursue their way, developing their institutions, caring  
“for the needy in their midst, and striving to add to  
“the sum total of human comfort and happiness within  
“their borders.

*(The Marquis of Lansdowne, K.G.):*

“It is, to my mind, impossible to overrate the im-  
“portance of Mr. Borden's announcement, which will be  
“memorable in the history both of the Dominion and of  
“the mother country, and marks the beginning of a new  
“era for the Empire. It has been received with the ut-  
“most enthusiasm by all classes of the community here.  
“I am more than ever proud to have been for a time con-  
“nected with the public affairs of Canada.”

*(Mr. Walter Long):*

“Speaking at Skipton, he referred to Canada's gift  
“to the navy, and described it as a stirring incident in the  
“history of the Empire. (Cheers.) It was a splendid  
“tribute to the spirit of Imperialism which they were  
“proud to know permeated the whole of the British Em-  
“pire to-day. Canada, realizing that the burden of pro-  
“tecting the seas was one which was a little too great  
“for this United Kingdom to bear alone, had come for-  
“ward and had offered a splendid contribution to our  
“navy, showing to the world that the British Empire,  
“composed as it was of different Kingdoms, stood as one  
“man in defence of our common rights and privileges.  
“(Cheers.)”

*(Lord Roberts cables):*

“You have earned the gratitude of England and  
“the Empire for Canada's wonderful offer of contribu-  
“tion to our defence. Personally I send my warmest  
“thanks.”



## LORD STRATHCONA'S VIEWS.

*(Lord Strathcona's views) :*

"In an interview, he expressed the gratification  
"which the cordial reception of the scheme in Britain  
"would give to all Canadians. It could hardly be otherwise,  
"when Canada, out of her loyalty and devotion to the  
"Empire, had made that great offer voluntarily. As to  
"the residence in London of a Canadian Minister to re-  
"present the Dominion on the Committee of Imperial  
"Defence, he said his presence here, together with the  
"representatives of Australia, New Zealand, and South  
"Africa, in close consultation with the Executive of the  
"Home Government upon questions of Imperial De-  
"fence, could not fail to promote Imperial Unity."

*(Lord Charles Beresford, M.P. (Unionist) :*

"What I recommended the Dominions to do was to  
"defend their end of the trade routes with strong naval  
"bases, mines, torpedo-boat destroyers, and light cruis-  
"ers. The trade routes are unprotected now. Our  
"danger is starvation, not invasion. Nothing can ex-  
"ceed the admiration in which all of us hold the Can-  
"adians for making such a magnificent contribution to  
"the safety of the old country."

*(Sir Gilbert Parker, M.P. (Unionist, and a Canadian) :*

"When you remember that Canada has never given  
"a penny to Imperial defence in her whole history, the  
"proposed contribution is wonderful. Over more than  
"a quarter of a century Australia gave £200,000 a year.  
"But Canada has made up a lot of years by this pro-  
"posed gift. Here is the great right thing from the  
"premier Dominion of the Empire. Once again Canada  
"reveals her inherent greatness."

*(Mr. Graham Horton-Smith, joint hon. secretary of the Im-  
perial Maritime League) :*

"Mr. Borden's speech constitutes a message of fine

"inspiration and hope flashed from the Canadian strand.  
"The danger is that the present British Government  
"may make use of the proposed gift with the object of  
"lessening the amount of British construction, and thus  
"be able to save more money for its own political pur-  
"poses with the torate of the United Kingdom."

*(Sir Conan Doyle):*

"Sir Conan Doyle, the celebrated writer of patriotic  
"verse and author of 'The Great Boer War,' who is poli-  
"tically Unionist, but believes in Home Rule for Ireland,  
"wires: 'Magnificent; every citizen must rejoice.'"

*(Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, who was Colonial Secretary under Bal-  
four):*

"I should like to express my profound sense of  
"gratitude, not merely for the splendid proposal, but  
"for the reception accorded it by Canadians in all parts  
"of the Dominion."

*(E. Smith, M.P., who is certain to be in the next Unionist Cabi-  
net):*

"The proposed terms will excite the gratitude and  
"emotion of every patriotic Englishman and statesman.  
"In its own broad scope it has done more to consolidate  
"and define the conditions of Imperial defence than any  
"speech hitherto made, either here or in the Dominions."

*(Allan Burgoyne, editor of the Navy Annual):*

"It was satisfactory that Canada reserved the right  
"to reclaim the contribution for Dominion purposes  
"when the necessity arises, which will forbid the Home  
"Government using the present gift as a substitution for  
"supply from the Imperial exchequer."

*(Mr. Mackinder (Unionist), of Glasgow):*

"It is difficult to say which is the more important  
"fact, that we have three more ships, or the addition of  
"a statesman of the first importance to the Imperial

"councils. Mr. Borden has had the courage to resist the  
"temptation to tie the new squadron to local waters.  
"It is clear that at no distant time assistance from Do-  
"minions beyond the seas must be on a very consider-  
"able scale. To-day's gift is an earnest that a generous  
"view will be taken."

(*Mr. Hamar Greenwood, M.P.*):

"As a Canadian who, during the whole of his pub-  
"lic life, has done his best to bring home to Canadians  
"the privilege and duty of adequately assisting in Im-  
"perial defence, I am naturally glad to congratulate Mr.  
"Borden on his step in advance, and equally to congrat-  
"ulate Sir Wilfrid Laurier on his support of the emer-  
"gency grant. These two Canadian statesmen, together  
"with Mr. Winston Churchill, make a trio of men who  
"put the Empire first."

#### THE NAVY LEAGUE.

(*The Navy League issued the following*):

"The Executive Committee of the Navy League  
"hasten to offer their warm congratulations, and to ex-  
"press their profound sense of gratitude to the Prime  
"Minister and the people of the Dominion of Canada  
"for the magnificent contribution to the strength of the  
"fleet announced in the Dominion House of Commons  
"on Thursday. The Navy League regards the action  
"of the Canadian people as the coping stone of the struc-  
"ture of Imperial Unity. In this moment of gratitude  
"and congratulation, however, we must not forget that  
"the primary duty of the defence of these islands with  
"their teeming populations dependent upon sea-borne  
"supplies of foodstuffs and of raw material for their  
"industries—themselves the very heart of the Empire  
"—devolves, and must always devolve, upon us. The  
"Navy League ventures to warn the people of this coun-  
"try that they must not permit the generous offers of  
"the Dominions to participate in Imperial Defence to

“be used by party statesmen for the purpose of reducing  
“the burden of necessary naval defence which the tax-  
“payer of this country must continue to shoulder, and  
“to ask them to insist that these ships shall be addition-  
“al to, and not in place of, those which the position and  
“necessities of the mother country compel her to pro-  
“vide.”

*(Mr. Ryerburgh, member for Chester, and chairman of the Navy League):*

“We have just cabled Premier Borden expressing  
“the gratitude and thanks of the nation to the Canadian  
“people for the magnificent offer that is really making  
“the Empire a reality and putting a coping stone on  
“Imperial unity. There is no doubt that Britain is  
“faced with an extremely serious state of affairs. This  
“determination of the overseas Dominion to stand side  
“by side with the mother country certainly makes for  
“the peace of the world.”

*(The Canadian Section of Commerce, Paris, cabled the Prime Minister):*

“British Chambers of Commerce rejoices Canada’s  
“generous offer made in the interest of Imperial unity  
“and commerce.”